Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A computer implemented method in a logical partitioned data processing system for providing a host bridge that implements extended error handling in logical partitioned data processing systems, [[said]]the computer implemented method comprising the steps of:

enabling extended error handling in [[said]]the host bridge when all devices coupled below [[said]]the host bridge implement extended error handling; [[and]]

disabling extended error handling in [[said]]the host bridge when at least one of [[said]]the devices coupled below [[said]]the host bridge does not implement extended error handling;

allocating ones of the devices to a first partition;

allocating other ones of the devices to a second partition;

sharing the host bridge, wherein the host bridge is shared by the first and second partition;

terminating the first and second partition when extended error handling is disabled in the host bridge when an error occurs in one of the devices; and

continuing operating the first and the second partitions when extended error handling is enabled in the host bridge when an error occurs in the one of the devices.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

dynamically enabling or disabling extended error handling in [[said]]the host bridge during run time in response to a change in an extended error handling status of [[said]]the devices.

4. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

permitting devices that implement extended error handling and devices that do not implement extended error handling to simultaneously coexist and operate in [[said]]the system.

5. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

determining whether all [[said]]the devices implement extended error handling;

initializing [[said]]the host bridge to operate in extended error handling mode in response to determining that all [[said]]the devices implement extended error handling; and

initializing [[said]]the host bridge to operate in machine check mode in response to determining that at least one of [[said]]the devices does not implement extended error handling.

6. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method according to claim 5, further comprising the steps of:

[[after]]responsive to initializing [[said]the host bridge to operate in extended error handling mode, determining whether extended error handling has been disabled in one of [[said]]the devices; and

responsive to determining that extended error handling has been disabled in one of the devices, initializing [[said]]the host bridge to operate in machine check mode ~~in response to determining that extended error handling has been disabled in one of said devices~~.

7. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

detecting an error condition in [[said]]the host bridge which puts [[said]]the host bridge in an error state;

determining whether [[said]]the host bridge has extended error handling enabled;

~~in response~~ responsive to determining that [[said]]the host bridge has the extended error handling enabled, reporting [[said]]the error condition to all [[said]]the devices below [[said]]the host bridge; and

performing error recovery for [[said]]the host bridge without terminating any partitions that share [[said]]the host bridge.

8. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method according to claim 7, wherein [[said]]the step of performing error recovery for [[said]]the host bridge further comprising the steps of:

clearing [[said]]the error state of [[said]the host bridge;

reporting [[said]]the error condition to all [[said]]the devices below [[said]]the host bridge.

9. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method according to claim 8, further comprising the steps of:

responsive to each one of the devices receiving a report of the error condition, executing error recovery in each one of [[said]]the devices ~~in response to each one of said devices receiving said report of said error~~; and

~~said devices~~ processing and clearing, by the devices, [[said]]the error condition without requiring [[said]]the host bridge during [[said]]the processing and clearing of [[said]]the error condition.

10. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method according to claim 8, further comprising the steps of:

disabling [[said]]the host bridge from generating a machine check during [[said]]the step of performing error recovery for [[said]]the host bridge.

11. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method according to claim 8, wherein [[said]]the step of reporting [[said]]the error condition to all [[said]]the devices below [[said]]the host bridge further comprises the steps of:

building an error log for [[said]]the host bridge describing [[said]]the error condition;

waiting for a device driver to attempt a load to one of [[said]]the devices;

~~in response~~ responsive to [[said]]the device driver attempting to load to one of [[said]]the devices, reporting an error indication to [[said]]the device driver;

~~in response~~ responsive to [[said]]the device driver receiving [[said]]the error indication, receiving a copy of [[said]]the error log;

utilizing [[said]]the copy of [[said]]the error log by [[said]]the device driver to attempt to process and clear [[said]]the error condition.

12.-33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently amended) A computer implemented method in a logical partitioned data processing system for providing a host bridge that implements extended error handling in logical partitioned data processing systems, [[said]]the method comprising the steps of:

coupling [[said]]the host bridge to at least one device;

determining whether all devices coupled to [[said]]the host bridge implement extended error handling;

~~in response~~ responsive to a determination that all devices that are coupled to [[said]]the host bridge implement extended error handling, initializing [[said]]the host bridge to operate in extended error handling mode;

~~said devices~~ handling, by the devices, any error that occurs with [[said]]the devices without reporting [[said]]the error to [[said]]the host bridge when [[said]]the host bridge is operating in extended error handling mode, wherein all partitions that share [[said]]the host bridge continue to operate without being terminated while [[said]]the devices are handling [[said]]the error;

~~in response~~ responsive to a determination that not all devices that are coupled to [[said]]the host bridge implement extended error handling, initializing [[said]]the host bridge to operate in non-extended error handling mode;

generating a machine check by [[said]]the host bridge in response to an error occurring within one of [[said]]the devices when [[said]]the host bridge is operating in non-extended error handling mode; and

responsive to a receipt of the machine check, terminating all [[said]]the partitions that share [[said]]the host bridge ~~in response to a receipt of said machine check~~.